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There is nothing so minute or inconspicuous that I would not rather know it than not.—Johnson.

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A CONFERENCE ON FREIGHT RATES

Transcontinental Managers to Have an Important Meeting.

WILL AFFECT EVERY ROAD

All Oriental Lines But One Have Signified Their Intention to Attend the Meeting.

Seattle Post-Intelligencer.

There is to be a conference of North-western transcontinental line freight managers within a few days at St. Paul, which, it is given out, will be for the purpose of making an effort to come to some kind of an agreement for the restoration and increase of freight rates from St. Paul to the Pacific coast and the Orient.

From an official source it is learned that for some months past the steamship lines of both the Great Northern and Northern Pacific have been urging the putting into effect of a higher common-point rate to Japan and China.

Within the past 30 days the British government has impressed several of the Canadian Pacific boats, both on the Oriental and Australian runs, which has so reduced the company's tonnage that a higher rate must be sought.

There is only one Oriental line that has not yet signified its intention to attend the meeting. The San Francisco line is said to be yet holding out, but in all probability will come in, as the small business done by it comes to a large extent from Southern California.

COMING METEORIC DISPLAY.

On November 14th Will Occur One of the Grandest Spectacles Ever Witnessed.

On the night of the November 14 one of the grandest spectacles ever offered by the heavens will be witnessed in the form of a great fall of meteorites.

Reckoned by the figures of the heavens the Leonids are but infants. According to Professor Simon Newcomb, Tempel's comet has been dead only

thirty-three hundred years. The cause of the explosion was the heat generated by the rate at which the comet revolved as it tore through space.

The sight, as the great fiery body burst into a million molten fragments, must have been grand and awful beyond the powers of human comprehension.

But, for the fragments of the burning body there could be no rest. The invisible but relentless forces which drew the larger body through countless ages along a certain path were at work also among the shattered flying particles.

The course of Tempel's comet, and of its subsequent fragments, completely encircles the orbit of the earth, touching it at one place only on its outer edge. Once only in thirty-three years does Tempel's comet complete its orbit, and once only do the fragments of the dead comet, myriads in number, trail across the orbit of the earth.

The single meteor or meteorite that makes when it strikes the earth's atmosphere the so-called shooting star is a mere tramp of the heavens. It is a detached fragment of some shattered planet, and it wanders more or less at random through space until it comes within the circle of attraction of some larger body, when gravity causes it to fall.

Occasionally the heat generated by the meteor is so great that it bursts before coming in contact with any solid substance. In such a case it is termed a fire-ball. But neither the single meteor nor the meteor can be observed by the telescope or by the naked eye except at the brilliant moment of its death.

But the comet is a creature of the skies more to be reckoned with. Erratic as its wanderings may seem to the unlearned, in reality it pursues a definite course among the more regular orbits of the stars. The length of the orbit which it travels varies from the comparatively small distance of a few hundred millions of miles to one that reaches into the thousands of billions.

Regarding the approaching meteoric display, Professor William A. Harkness, who has charge of the astronomical department of the United States government naval observatory said:

"We are unable to predict the exact hour at which the November meteoric showers will begin. From the best present estimates it may be expected that the showers will reach a maximum at 1 a. m. on the morning of the 14th of November. They will probably begin three or four hours earlier than this to fall in small bursts. They will continue throughout the morning of the 15th of November, and will be more or less observable during the evenings and mornings of the 15th, 16th and 17th of November, although on each succeeding day the number of meteors observable will diminish.

"These meteors and meteorites vary in weight from a few grains to many pounds. The strike the earth's atmosphere at a height of seventy-four miles and begin to burn, being entirely consumed when they are at a height of 50 miles.

"The phenomenon of a great meteoric shower is generally a perfectly noticeable one. When the streak is first formed it is narrow and perfectly straight, but becomes serpentine and assumes an irregular figure as it drifts along under the influence of the wind currents in the upper region of the atmosphere. These streaks or trails are of various colors, owing partly to the composition of their elementary substance and partly to their altitude. Some are of a delicate greenish hue, while others light up the skies with a ruddy glow. Streaks of orange, red and white, with bluish white, commingle to form a most remarkable and beautiful spectacle. Occasionally an orange colored meteor may be observed, leaving in its wake a streak of green.

"Many valuable results will no doubt be gained from this year's observations. This will be the first time in their history that the Leonids will be the center of a systematic observation throughout the world."

DEWEY SALVE.

New York Press. One of the big firms in the shopping district decorated the front of its store with an immense portrait of Dewey, and beneath it placed the word 'salve' in large letters. A stranger in town, much pleased at the decoration, openly expressed his admiration, but, being a trifle short on Latin and not understanding that 'salve' meant hail! instead of ointment, remarked indignantly: "Don't you think it a pity that people will spoil a fine picture of Dewey like that one by trying to advertise with it a poultice for wounds and bruises?"

SALMON AT THE PARIS FAIR.

Fine Advertisement of the Alaska Packers Will Be Sent to the Exhibition, but Columbia River Not in It.

One of the most interesting exhibits which will go from this coast to the World's Exposition in Paris will be shipped from San Francisco next week by the Alaska Packers' Association, says the San Francisco Chronicle. The exhibit is a model salmon cannery, carefully constructed on a scale of one twelfth of an inch to the foot and perfect in every detail.

The fish are drawn up by a revolving shaft and fed into the lower floor of the cannery inside, where little mannikins seated at tables clean the fish, removing tails, scales and entrails. These are the cleaners, and the fish are placed in trays, which are drawn automatically to the next table, where the cutters cut the fish into convenient lengths. In each case the fish move along automatically to the next set of workers.

The next machine is the filling machine, where the empty cans are filled with fish. The next group of dolls sees that each can is filled, and at the next table are the capping machines, where the tops are fastened on the cans and crimped. After passing through the seal machine the cans are soldered and then cooled and tested for leaks—all done by machinery. At a side table several menders are seated to fill up every hole that may appear. The cans are then placed in retorts and cooked an hour at a temperature of 212 degrees Fahrenheit. After this a hole is punched in the cover, the air allowed to escape and the holes resoldered, after which the cans are again boiled for an hour at a temperature of 245 degrees Fahrenheit.

Upstairs in the model cannery the cannemakers are shown at work, every process being indicated and every machine exactly imitated, from the one which cuts the tins to the one which bottoms the cans. The feeders are shown, by which the finished cans come down stairs, to be used by the fish-packers. In the corners of the rooms are shown hundreds of tiny cases of fish, piled ready for shipping in the three-masted ship which is moored just outside. The model is, of course, scrupulously clean, but no cleaner, they say, than the cannery itself is made each night, the entire refuse being carried out to sea and dumped from lighters.

EMPLOYING MEN 'HOUSEMAIDS.'

Mistresses Who Find Them More Respectful, Obliging and Capable Than Women Servants.

"The prediction so often made of late years that women by usurping men's places in the industrial world would sooner or later lose their own place in domestic service," said a housekeeper lately, "seems to have been fulfilled in Chicago, where scarcity and in competency of female servants have at last forced housekeepers to employ men as cooks and laundrymen.

"Everywhere the 'want situations' columns of the daily papers are full of men's advertisements for domestic employment, and the new departure seems to be giving general satisfaction to all concerned. Housekeepers say that the men are respectful, obliging and capable. They learn quickly, work hard and never complain that they have too much to do. The men say that the labor unions, strikes and reduced wages have made living by ordinary occupations more and more difficult and that they find housework easy and more remunerative. Distance from the central part of town has no terrors for them, and from \$15 to \$18 a month clear of expenses strikes them as fairly good wages.

"The distaste for serving in a menial capacity does not affect men as it does women, nor do the former object to liveries as a badge of servitude. "It is a fact that wherever men, Chinese or white, have established themselves in domestic service the women have been completely driven out. This does not mean that men work for less money. They do not. A good Chinaman for general housework, a 'make everything' man, as he expresses it, always demands from \$20 to \$30 a month on the Pacific coast, Idaho and Montana, while girls in the same places are paid from \$14 to \$18."

ELECTROPLATING SHIPS.

Experiments With Copper on a Tug Prove Successful.

According to the report on the completion of the bottom of the tug Assistance of the navy department, the electroplating of iron hulls with copper appears to be a success. The Assistance was electroplated with copper to a depth of one-thirty-second of an inch before it was launched in 1895, and when it was taken out of the water at the Norfolk navy yard a few days ago

it was found that practically no electrolysis had set in and that the bottom was about clear of barnacles and other marine growths.

At no time since it was launched has the Assistance been docked and cleaned. During the four years it received a number of hard knocks and was on the rocks several times. It was found necessary to patch over certain weak spots as the result of these accidents, and it was only in the vicinity of these patches that any galvanic action was found.

Owing to its clean bottom, the speed of the Assistance has not diminished, while all the other tugs in use in Chesapeake bay have been taken out for scraping about once a month. Experience shows that three months of service in salt water reduces the speed of a vessel about 28 per cent, so the advantage of this copper electroplating is at once apparent. The cost of the plating is about \$3 a foot. The saving in docking would be enormous, as the expense of docking a vessel is between \$2,000 and \$4,000.



Those who have delayed buying Summer Footwear

are fortunate. They can save at least a third on the usual cost of high grade shoes. We are closing out all of our summer tan shoes at a great reduction. We have them for men, women and children, which should bring everyone to the store. They are new goods which have overstay their time. Consider these figures. Petersen & Brown.

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of the pudding is in the eating and the proof of liquor

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That's an argument that's conclusive—a demonstration. Our will stand the test.

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Through palace and tourist sleepers, dining and library observation cars. ELEGANT VESTIBULE TRAINS. No. 4 Limited leaves Portland at 2:10 p. m. No. 3 Limited arrives Portland at 2:30 a. m. For rates, etc., call or address G. W. LOUNSBERRY, Agent O. R. & N., Astoria, or A. B. C. DENNINGTON, C. P. & T. A., Portland Ore.

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Halley Gatzert leaves Astoria daily, except Sunday, at 7 p. m. Leaves Portland daily except Sunday at 7 a. m. White Collar line tickets and O. R. & N. tickets interchangeable on Halley Gatzert and Hassalo. Fare between Astoria and Portland, 50 cents. A. J. Taylor, Astoria Agt. U. B. SCOTT, Telephone 111, President.

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Dr. Walker's methods are regular and scientific. He used no patent nostrums or ready-made preparations, but cures the disease by thorough medical treatment. His New Phagmion on Private Diseases sent Free to all men who describe their trouble. Patients cured at home. Terms reasonable. All letters answered in plain envelope. Consultation free and sacredly confidential. Call on or address Doctor Walker, 132 First St., Cor. Alder, Portland, Or.

Look Here, Young Man! Your looks tell on you. Can keep it secret a while. Before it is too late go and see or write to this old doctor. He has been treating such cases for over 30 years, and is perfectly reliable. He makes his own medicine and sells no tails.

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YOUNG MEN. Your errors and follies of youth can be remedied, and this old doctor will give you the best advice and cure you—make you strong and healthy. You will be amazed at his success in curing Spermatorrhoea, Seminal Losses, Nightly Emissions, and other ills.

Patients located in any part of the country by his home system. Write full particulars, include 10¢ stamp, and he will answer you promptly. Hundreds treated at home who are unable to come to the city.

READ THIS

Take a clear bottle at bedtime and urinate in the bottle set aside a look at it in the morning. If it is cloudy or has a sandy settling in it, you have some kidney or bladder disease, and should be attended to before you get an incurable disease, as hundreds die every year from Bright's disease of the Kidneys.

VIM VIGOR VITALITY FOR MEN. Moryon Bishops' Pills have been in use over 20 years by the leaders of the Mormon Church and are highly recommended. Cures Loss of Manhood, Impotency, Loss of Power, Night-Losses, Spermatorrhoea, Prostatitis, Painful Urinary Discharge, Stricture, Seminal Discharge, Loss of Energy, Nervous Debility, Headache, Dizziness, etc. 50¢ per bottle. A. J. Taylor, Astoria Agt. U. B. SCOTT, Telephone 111, President.